

REMARKS

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 5, and 9 are the independent claims.

No claims have been amended by the present Request.

SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Applicant expresses his gratitude to the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicant's undersigned representative during the telephone interview conducted on September 8, 2006. During the interview, the independent claims, U.S. Patent No. 6,430,455 (Rebellow et al.), and the current rejections were discussed. It was agreed that the claims as presently presented patentably define over the citations of record for at least the reasons set forth below.

In the current rejection of independent claims 1, 5, and 12, the Office relies on Rebello et al. for the necessary disclosure of the following features:

a load region data creating function for creating load region data for specifying a load applying region in said master model, the load applying region being a portion of the master model to which a load will be applied, the load being at least one of an external force and a temperature (independent claim 1);

load region data creating means for creating load region data for specifying a load applying region in said master model, the load applying region being a portion of the master model to which a load will be applied, the load being at least one of an external force and a temperature (independent claim 5); and

a load region data creating step for creating load region data for specifying a load applying region in said master model, the load applying region being a portion of the master model to which a load will be applied, the load being at least one of an external force and a temperature (independent claim 9).

Specifically, the Office Action mailed May 22, 2006 contends that drawings 24 are where load data is present in Rebello et al. (Office Action, pages 4, 5, and 10).

Rebello et al. relates to managing how current files of a product are at the time of release and discusses using programs stored in a CAD/CAM system 12 to generate a master model 20

from a plurality of model features stored in a database 22. (Rebello et al., Col. 2, lines 45-48; FIG. 1). Rebello et al. goes on to discuss using a data population and extraction program to extract attributes from model features used to make the master model and to populate a data file (e.g., a drawing 24) with the extracted attributes. (Rebello et al., Col. 2, lines 48-52; FIG. 1). Thus, the drawings 24 are populated by extracted attributes of model features.

Absent from Rebello et al. is any teaching or suggestion that the drawings 24 include data regarding a load as defined by independent claims 1, 5, and 9. This is because Rebello et al. relates to CAD/CAM, where shape data, not load data (defined by independent claims 1, 5, and 9 to be data of at least one of an external force and a temperature) is of interest. Thus, it is unreasonable to conclude that Rebello et al.'s drawings 24 include data about a region to which at least one of an external force and a temperature (a load) is to be applied. Thus, the asserted combination is deficient, as agreed during the interview of September 8, 2006.

Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,453,934 (Taghavi et al.) in view of the article entitled "A Review of ANN-based short- term load Forecasting" (Rui et al.), and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,430,455 (Rebello et al.) is traversed.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims patentably define the present invention over the citations of record. Further, the dependent claims should also be allowable for the same reasons as their respective base claims and further due to the additional features that they recite. Separate and individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action. However, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to such matters.

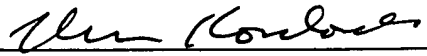
There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 10-13-06

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